

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD SUMMARY

Friday, March 8, 2002

HOUSE

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, March 11, 2002, at 2:00 p.m.

Congressional Program Ahead. Week Of March 11 Through March 16, 2002:

Committee on Appropriations: 3/13/02 @ 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary, on Supreme Court. H-309 Capitol

Page D 201

Committee on Appropriations: 3/14/02 @ 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee on Transportation, on Member of Congress. 2358 Rayburn

Committee on Energy and Commerce: 3/14/02 @ 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, to continue hearings on the Financial Collapse of Enron Corp., focusing on Enron's inside and outside counsel. 2322 Rayburn

Committee on Rules: 3/12/02 @ 5 p.m. To consider the following: **H.R. 2146**, "Two Strikes and You're Out Child Protection Act"; and **H.R. 2341**, "Class Action Fairness Act of 2001." H-313 Capitol

Page D 202

SENATE

Measures Introduced:

_____ **S. 2002.** A bill to ensure that *victims of domestic violence* get the help they need in a single phone call, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Wellstone

Pages S 1705

_____ **S. 2003.** A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the applicability of the prohibition on assignment of veterans benefits to agreements regarding future receipt of compensation, pension, or dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Nelson

Page S 1705

S. 517 - Energy Policy Act:

Senate continued consideration of S. 517, to authorize funding for the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S 1693-94, D 198

Adopted:

By a unanimous vote of 94 yeas (Vote No. 45), **McCain Amendment No. 2979 (to Amendment No. 2917)**, to provide for enhanced safety, public awareness, and environmental protection in pipeline transportation.

Pages S 1693, D 198

S. 517 - Energy Policy Act (Cont'd.):

Pending:

Daschle/Bingaman Further Modified Amendment No. 2917, in the nature of a substitute.

Pages S 1693-94, D 198

A **unanimous-consent agreement** was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 3 p.m., on Monday, March 11, 2002.

Pages S 1712, D 198

H.R. 3090 - Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act:

By 85 yeas to 9 nays (Vote No. 44), ***Senate agreed to the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3090***, to provide tax incentives for economic recovery, ***clearing the measure for the President.***

Pages S 1689-92, D 198

Nominations Confirmed:

Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Paul I. Perez, of Florida, to be *United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida*, for the term of four years.

Eric F. Melgren, of Kansas, to be *United States Attorney for the District of Kansas* for the term of four years.

Dennis Cluff Merrill, of Oregon, to be *United States Marshal for the District of Oregon* for the term of four years. *John Schickel*, of Kentucky, to be *United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Kentucky* for the term of four years.

William R. Whittington, of Louisiana, to be *United States Marshal for the Western District of Louisiana* for the term of four years.

Stephen Gilbert Fitzgerald, of Wisconsin, to be *United States Marshal for the Western District of Wisconsin* for a term of four years.

J.C. Raffety, of West Virginia, to be *United States Marshal for the Northern District of West Virginia* for a term of four years.

James Anthony Rose, of Wyoming, to be *United States Marshal for the District of Wyoming* for the term of four years.

James Loren Kennedy, of Indiana, to be *United States Marshal for the Southern District of Indiana* for the term of four years.

Theophile Alceste Duroncellet, of Louisiana, to be *United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Louisiana* for the term of four years.

James Thomas Plousis, of New Jersey, to be *United States Marshal for the District of New Jersey* for the term of four years.

Charles R. Reavis, of North Carolina, to be *United States Marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina* for the term of four years.

Timothy Dewayne Welch, of Oklahoma, to be *United States Marshal for the Northern District of Oklahoma* for the term of four years.

Michael Robert Regan, of Pennsylvania, to be *United States Marshal for the Middle District of Pennsylvania* for the term of four years.

Jesse Seroyer, Jr., of Alabama, to be *United States Marshal for the Middle District of Alabama* for the term of four years.

Pages S 1709-10, S 1713, D 198-9

Nominations Confirmed (Cont'd.):

Gregory Allyn Forest, of North Carolina, to be *United States Marshal for the Western District of North Carolina* for the term of four years.

John R. Edwards, of Vermont, to be *United States Marshal for the District of Vermont* for the term of four years.

Pages S 1709-10, S 1713, D 198-9

Congressional Program Ahead. Week Of March 11 Through March 16, 2002:

Committee on Appropriations: 3/14/02 @ 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee on Treasury and General Government, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2003 for the Department of the Treasury. SD-138

Committee on Appropriations: 3/14/02 @ 2:30 p.m. Subcommittee on District of Columbia, to hold hearings to *examine regional emergency planning for the Nation's Capital*. SD-192

Page D 200

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: 3/14/02 @ 10:00 a.m. Full Committee, to resume oversight hearings to examine accounting and investor protection issues raised by the Enron situation, and other public companies, focusing on the accounting profession, audit quality and independence, and formulation of accounting principles. SD-538

Page D 200

Committee on Governmental Affairs: 3/12/02 @ TBA Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nomination of *Jeanette J. Clark*, of the District of Columbia, to be an *Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia*. Room TBA

Committee on Governmental Affairs: 3/12/02 @ 2:30 p.m. *Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services*, to hold hearings on S. 1800, to *strengthen and improve the management of national security, encourage Government service in areas of critical national security, and to assist government agencies in addressing deficiencies in personnel possessing specialized skills important to national security and incorporating the goals and strategies for recruitment and retention for such skilled personnel into the strategic and performance management systems of Federal agencies*. SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: 3/13/02 @ 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information, to hold hearings to *examine the worldwide connection between drugs and terrorism*. SD- 226

Committee on the Judiciary: 3/14/02 @ 10:00 a.m. Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine competition, innovation, and public policy concerning digital creative works. SD-226

Page D 201

Remarks:

Price-Andersen Act. (In reference to S. 517)

Judicial Nominations.

"...I support Judge Pickering because I think Judge Pickering, in the year 2002, is an appropriate nominee for the circuit court. If Charles Pickering were still a State Senator in the 1970s, I would vote against him because his civil rights record at that time was not good. But today he is a different man. This is a different time. The opposition raised against Judge Pickering, in large measure, is about what he was as a Mississippi State Senator in the 1970s. It is my hope that at a minimum we will send Judge Pickering's nomination to the floor of the Senate for a vote by the full Senate. The Constitution provides for confirmation by the Senate--not by the Senate Judiciary Committee. There are solid indicators that if Judge Pickering reached the floor, there would be 51 or more votes for his confirmation. [] There is solid precedent for submitting nominees to the full Senate when there is a negative or tied vote in committee. Judge Bork was defeated 8 to 5 in committee. Yet his nomination was sent to the floor for consideration as a Supreme Court nomination. Justice Clarence Thomas had a tie vote in the committee of 7 to 7, but by a vote of 13 to 1 his nomination was sent to the floor. Six nominees for district court or circuit courts have been sent to the full Senate when they did not receive an affirmative vote in committee--since 1951..."

Specter

Pages S 1694-1695

Nomination of Jeffrey Howard.

"...The vacancy he was nominated to fill was formerly held by Judge Norman Stahl. This vacancy was created on April 16, 2001. You may want to keep this in mind. We are almost to the first-year anniversary of the creation of the vacancy, and yet, how does he conduct his law practice? How does he take on new clients? What does he do? [] Jeff Howard has an impressive array of legal experience that well qualifies him to be a Federal appellate judge..."

Smith

Pages S 1696-1697

Nomination of Charles Pickering.

"... This is a tragedy, when we have to drag people through the mud when they get finally to the hearing process, as Charles Pickering has. He is a man whose name is being dragged through the mud, even though people in his hometown of all races and creeds are praising him and saying: Whatever mistakes he made in the past, we understand. He has moved beyond that. He is a good man. He ought to be on the bench. Yet here we are, stuck with probably seeing a situation where Charles Pickering will be defeated by one vote on a party-line vote and not be allowed to come to the floor..."

Smith

Page S 1697

Hate Crimes: Why We Can't Wait.

Feinstein

Page S 1702

Confirmation of Sheriff Stephen Fitzgerald to be U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Wisconsin.

Kohl

Page S 1703

The Importance of Enforcing Gun Laws.

Levin

Page S 1704

Next SENATE MEETING: Monday, 3:00 p.m., March 11, 2002.**Next HOUSE MEETING: Monday, 2:00 p.m., March 11, 2002.****OLA: S. Schwarz, A. Santos**

